China Weekly Review

密勒氏評論報

HONAN PROVINCE'S FLOOD CONTROL

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN HUNGJAO VILLAGE

WORLD YOUTH WEEK CELEBRATIONS

ALFRED KIANG

EDITORIALS:

Problems of Empire
Postscript on the "Gordon"
Knowland's "China Aid" Proposal

APRIL 15, 1950 JMP 5,000

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LETTERS From The People

Comments from readers on current topics are cordially invited: their opinions, however, do not necessarily represent the views of the China Weekly Review.

DIGNITY OF LABOR

To the Editor:

At the call of our school authorities we have gone to the suburb of the South Gate, nearby the railway line to reclaim abandoned land. Nearly a week ago, perhaps the Day of International Youth, we began our spring plowing. At present the incessant rain has made us stay at home. But before the spring vacation we saw the bright sun. Then we continued to plow and plow, and yesterday the seeds were sown—beans and potatoes. Around the railway you could see a patch of virgin land upturned and many young students tilling out in the open. Each one holds a spade or shovel.

Sometimes farmers pass by saying: "Who are they? Do students know how to till?"

Curiously enough now everyone of us understands the dignity of labor. We have cleared away the wrong notions of labor of landlords or capitalists and labor makes us happy.

LIU TSEH-WU

Chuichow
April 5, 1950

STUDENT MARTYR

To the Editor:

On January 14, a warm Saturday afternoon, the students and faculty of West China Union University filed quietly into Hart College gymnasium each wearing on his arm the white flower of mourning. As the eulogy for the dead rose in its strangely sad sing-song chant, this University accepted into its traditions and heritage the memory of a heroine, and the new government recognized another martyr in its long struggle. Amidst the vivid scrolls of tribute, gorgeous floral wreaths of paper flowers and gay trimmings of white, we paid our respects in a memorial service to a young girl, Mao Ying-ts'ai, who had innocently suffered and, then, as her convictions grew under the heel of fascism, was murdered for her hope and faith in a new China.

Mao Ying-ts'ai was a quiet unassuming student. Her family had little money and had put what they had into securing an education for their daughter. Their pride in this kept Ying-ts'ai close to her work. As at any university the world over, the students at West China Union had turned their awakening intellects on the theories and principles of political thought and action. Ying-ts'ai had never taken any active part in the many student groups that had sprung up in support of some party, slogan or principle of left, right or center. But many of her friends were involved. Curiosity led her to peruse the pamplets and bills of the various sects and schisms of politics that plied their busy trade among the students.

On graduation day in spring 1949, Mao Ying-ts'ai received her college degree. She had never been able to afford to go home for vacations. Her father, proudly admiring his daughter in cap and gown, was seeing her for the first time in four years. He had come to take her home, but the secret police were to have first call on Miss Mao's travels. Some communist literature was found in her handbag and on the day after her graduation her new and last home was prison.

The late government, which has ignominiously fled, maintained itself in power by a system of hired spies and secret agents. These men were paid according to the gravity of the charges involved in their accusations and promotion often depended upon the number of arrests made. Mao Ying-ts'ai's crime of seeking truth was easily heightened by the usual type of police embellishment. To no one's surprise she was sent to jail on the charges. The formality of a trial was considered an unnecessary encumbrance upon justice and efficiency and was, of course, dispensed with.

Such miscarriages of the functions of government have often in the past awakened the sleeping liberal and aroused the indifferent. So must Mao Ying-ts'ai's mind have quickened to understanding of the cause of revolution under the actual demonstration of fascist rule. She was presented with a document which a few months before she might have signed without demur. By signing she was to forswear all contact with, or activity in any "unofficial" organization. She refused. After several months in jail she knew what she was giving up by her refusal. She bade farewell to more than thoughts of sunlight on the campus, her friends and the happy carelessness of college life. In that China, she knew only too well what other fate this might all too certainly mean.

After the murder of nearly 4,000 people in Chungking, including political prisoners with their wives and children by machinegun, and innocent citizens and the government's own unsuspecting workmen by high explosives, Chiang Kai-shek is known as "the butcher." In America he is more likely to be referred to as the bulwark of democracy against the surging red tide, but his monstrous orders have covered his hands with blood that no American newspaper can wipe off. In Chengtu this last crime of the Nationalist government was repeated, albeit on a smaller scale. As the fleeing leaders of the Kuomintang stepped into planes to desert their soldiers once again, they passed on the Generalissimo's last lordly gesture of command. The prisons spewed up their wrecks of half starved humanity to blink in the sun for a short moment before being mown down by machineguns. In ditches already dug, the wounded and the dead were rudely pushed by bulldozers. That night, shocked farmers came to spread a few inches of soil over the bodies to hide the shame.

In such an abattoir, representatives of the University and her family stumbled, searching for a body recognizable or identifiable as Mao Ying-ts'ai. And here they found her. The spark of life in glowing youth that had blossomed into conviction and faith and courage had been quenched. Her country is the less for that. Her spirit has made that pit of shame and horror into hallowed ground. Tyranny has erased, perhaps, some names from the roster of protest, but has engraved them forever on the enduring tablets of history.

P. EDDY HILL

Chengtu

February 12, 1950

ARE TAXES HEAVY?

To the Editor:

There has been a prevailing impression particularly among city merchants that the taxes of the People's government are very heavy, so heavy in fact that they might eventually suffocate commercial and industrial enterprises. Is this the case? Let's look at the facts.

For business tax the rates are one to three percent of total business receipts or 3.5 to six percent of total business profits; for income tax the maximum rate is 30 percent of net profits. Are the rates too high?

Heretofore, industrial and commercial taxes were in large measure aimed at middle and small concerns while bureaucratic capitalists and state-operated organizations were exempted. At present, all enterprises, whether large or small, public or private, must pay taxes.

Many merchants are feeling the tax burden because it is the first time that a modern

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SENATOR KNOWLAND'S PROPOSAL

SENATOR William Knowland has "proposed that surplus American foodstuffs should be sent to China as a 'humanitarian move' to relieve famine conditions."

This suggestion, press dispatches from Washington state, was contained in letters addressed to President Truman and Secretary of State Acheson. In his letters Senator Knowland said that the American people always had a friendly interest in the well-being of the people of China and therefore urged that a relief mission, similar to that headed by Mr. Herbert Hoover after the first world war, should be sent to China to distribute the food.

Senator Knowland's concern for the people of China would be more touching if we did not have a record of some of his previous utterances and recommendations regarding this country. In addition, while there are serious food shortages in a number of sections of the country, the overall food position is now better than it has been for many years. In view of this, we are a little curious as to just why Senator Knowland chose this particular moment to make an appeal on "humanitarian grounds" for food to relieve "famine conditions."

Whatever the Senator's motives, one likely result will be to add to the feelings of uncertainty and confusion which many Americans already have about China because of the recent change in government. Many Americans may get the impression that the new government is not looking after the welfare of the Chinese people. Such an attitude or impression, if it becomes widespread, might result in delaying recognition of the new government and prolonging the period of assistance to the KMT remnants.

In any event it is interesting to look at Senator Knowland's past stand so far as China is concerned. On January 2 of this year the Senator opened a discussion on the future of Taiwan, urging that the United States prevent it from falling into "communist hands" so as to maintain it *as part of the line for continental American defense.*

On January 6 Senator Knowland blamed the Truman administration for what he termed the "debacle" in China, charging that the KMT defeat endangered the peace of the world and the security of the United States. He further said that if Nationalist-held Taiwan were allowed to fall into unfriendly hands, "the Pacific coast may become our first line of defense." He demanded that the American government refuse to recognize the People's government, that it give supervised aid to the KMT, that it increase the American naval forces in the Pacific and that there be a "major shakeup" in the Far Eastern Division of the State Department.

On January 14, following the Peking consular dispute, Senator Knowland led a congressional attack on the State Department which demanded that the new authorities of China be classified as international "outlaws." He demanded the dismissal of all officials of the State Department who had had anything to do with formulating America's China policy.

On February 10, as acting Republican leader in the Senate, he spearheaded the passage of a bill which appropriated US$28,000,000 for the KMT on Taiwan and US$60,000,000 for the South Korea police state.

In view of all this, it seems rather strange that Senator Knowland should suddenly become so concerned over the welfare of a people whom he has spent a major share of his time denouncing in recent months. He has said they are a threat to the United States, he has demanded that their country be dismembered and now he wants to give them food!

* * *

ONE further item of interest along this line also appeared in the press last week. In fact, it was carried on the same day as the story of Knowland's proposal. This item, headed "Nehru Said Blocking Far East Marshall Plan," claimed that America's "efforts against communism" in the Far East were being blocked by Pandit Nehru's refusal to join a Pacific set-up similar to the European ERP.

This "unreasonable" attitude on the part of India's Nehru, the dispatch continued, was discussed at a meeting in Washington attended by ECA chief Paul Hoffman. Hoffman is reported to have made no secret of his concern over the matter and attributed Nehru's stand to the latter's fear of becoming involved with Russia if he joined an American-supported Far Eastern Marshall Plan.

One of those present, Senator Benton, is reported to have "pointed out" that during his visit to the US last year, Nehru tried to buy 10,000,000 bushels of surplus wheat at low terms. India needed the grain badly, and the United States was willing to sell.

But Nehru balked when the State Department proposed tying up the deal to India's taking an active part in the cold war against Russia, the dispatch stated.

Another present at the meeting, Representative Ribicoff, was then quoted as saying: "For Nehru to try to be neutral seems to me to be sheer folly. . . ."

WHILE we can thus see the "political" price which the State Department tried to exact from Nehru in return for the cheap sale of surplus US wheat, we still need an answer to the apparently startling conduct of Senator Knowland who wants to ship some of this surplus food to China. However, after reviewing Senator Knowland's record on the China question, and after seeing how anxious the State Department was to tie a string or two on any cheap wheat deal for India, we may be justified in suspecting that there is more to Knowland's offer than was disclosed in his letters to Truman and Acheson.

(Since the foregoing was written Senator Knowland's proposal has been taken up by the US State Department. Secretary Acheson told the press last week that he favored sending aid to China, but that the idea raised several "problems," including: Will the Chinese authorities be willing to allow Americans to supervise the distribution of relief food?

(In view of the manner in which ECA desired to "supervise" the distribution of aid, preferring to let the food rot in godowns unless it could distribute it itself in a manner calculated to further strengthen the position in China of foreign institutions, such as the Catholic Church, we can clearly see the thinly-disguised political nature of this offer).

POSTSCRIPT ON THE "GORDON"

ONE of the aftermaths of the failure of the *General Gordon* evacuation scheme appears to be an attack upon the Chinese government by the press in America for what it terms the "Communists' refusal" to allow 2,000 foreigners to leave China.

This interpretation of the *Gordon* fiasco is best illustrated by an editorial from the March 22 issue of the *New York Times* which states in full:

> The Chinese Communists have been refusing to permit some 2,000 foreigners including American diplomatic and consular officials to depart from Shanghai. Arrangements for their evacuation had been made after the Peiping and Shanghai authorities had given assurance that they were willing to facilitate this exodus and had even twitted our government about the "astonishing delay" with which its order for the withdrawal of official personnel was being carried out. But when the time came for evacuation the Communists reneged on their pledges and the projected visit of the evacuation ship had to be canceled pending the outcome of a general protest meeting by 15 foreign consulates still remaining in Shanghai.
>
> The Communists themselves have given no reason for their present action, but the first impression was that they might have had unwarranted apprehensions as to whether the two LSTs chartered by the shipping line to ferry passengers out of Shanghai over unmined but shallow waters were really commercial vessels. This assumption is belied, however, by the later news that foreigners are also being refused permission to leave Shanghai by rail for ports where regular shipping facilities are available.
>
> The ironic aspect of the situation is that the foreigners now desiring to leave are for the most part "Old China hands" who disregarded all warnings and stayed behind in the expectation of doing business successfully with the Communists. They are now a disillusioned lot, whose experience suggests that there is little profit in such a course.

While it is hardly necessary to point out the numerous factual mistakes and unwarranted conclusions in the *New York Times* editorial, a few particularly noticeable ones do deserve comment.

First, the local officials have not refused to allow the would-be *Gordon* passengers to leave. The whole trouble began when the American President Lines decided to "take a chance" on being able to get two naval ships up the river despite earlier official warnings that no foreign naval ships could enter China's inland waters. The local authorities stood fast on their earlier ruling and no amount of "pressure" has been able to make them budge from what they consider to be a matter of principle.

Second, there was never any question of "reneging on pledges," since none had ever been given to the effect that the LSTs could sail up river to Shanghai. In fact, just the opposite impression had been given, and long ago. Further, there is no basis for the charge that the authorities here have refused permission for foreigners to leave Shanghai via rail for other ports where regular shipping may be obtained. Already a number of people formerly booked on the *General Gordon* have left for Tientsin and more are leaving every day.

In view of the fact that the *Times* editorial writer appears to be about as confused as has been the whole *General Gordon* affair, it is interesting to note the sources upon which he drew for his material. He obtained it from the news columns of the previous day's issue of his own paper, which in turn took it from the American State Department in Washington and the American President Lines' Hongkong office.

How much of this material supplied the press by Washington and Hongkong was originated by the Shanghai offices of the American Consulate-General and the American President Lines is, of course, difficult to say at this point. However, since the negotiations were carried out locally, it may be presumed that a good part of the information was cabled from Shanghai by these two organizations.

In its March 21 issue, the *Times'* carried two stories dealing with the *General Gordon* evacuation scheme, one from its Washington bureau and the other an *Associated Press* dispatch from Hongkong.

The former story was based on an interview with a State Department spokesman. Its version of the *Gordon* fiasco runs generally along the same lines as the editorial, although it does bring out quite clearly that the difficulty arose over the two LSTs, a fact which the following day's editorial scarcely mentioned and which it denied was an influencing factor. The story gives the State Department as the source for the quote—which turned up in the editorial—that the attitude of the Chinese officials regarding the military nature of the LSTs was based wholly on "unwarranted apprehensions."

The *AP* dispatch from Hongkong quoted the Hongkong manager of the American President Lines, whose name was given as J.J. Berryman, as saying that the protest—also mentioned in the editorial—by 15 foreign consular bodies was a "last ditch" effort to carry off the evacuation.

This effort, the *AP* story explains, was being made to "persuade the Communists to go through with the carefully planned arrangements."

The story fails to explain that these "carefully planned arrangements" were all of a unilateral nature made solely by APL in conjunction with the American State Department without prior consultation with the local authorities and in spite of knowledge beforehand that it might well be impossible to implement them. Thus the average reader is left with the impression, as stated in the *Times'* editorial, that Shanghai's officials had "reneged on their pledges" and thus prevented the foreigners from leaving the country.

With such examples of misinformation given out to the press (in this case by one of the more important agencies of the American government and by a responsible state-owned shipping line) and interpreted in such a prejudicial fashion (in this case by one of America's leading newspapers and by the country's largest news agency) is it any wonder that a large section of the American public is bewildered and confused about developments in China today?

PROBLEMS OF EMPIRE

NOT long ago President Truman made a report to the American people, assuring them that their money which his administration was spending to keep the present Greek government in power, in spite of popular opposition from the people of Greece, was being well used. This money, he said, had enabled the government to kill more "dissidents" among the Greek people last year than had been possible in any previous year.

Despite this "rosy" picture which Truman painted for the sorely beset American taxpayers, the State Department now seems rather critical of conditions in Greece. On March 31, a press agency dispatch from Athens reported that the US ambassador had "warned Premier Sophocles Venizelos that an unstable Greek government and talk about dissolution of the newly elected parliament might endanger further American aid for Greece."

Ambassador Grady was quoted as telling the Greek premier what the latter should do in order to conform to the American government's idea of how the country ought to be run. "A major improvement in government efficiency is essential to the proper administration of the aid which is offered. The improvement should include a cabinet with a minimum of members and greater decentralization. It is in the hands of the Greek government and parliament," the American ambassador continued, "to decide whether or not they wish to receive American aid and so accept the responsibilities to attain its purpose."

On April 5 the State Department backed up Ambassador Grady's action and made it quite clear that Washington was displeased with the way the Greek government was managing its affairs. Secretary Acheson told the press that he endorsed the warning which, according to a press agency dispatch from Washington, was to the effect that the "Greek government should reform its economy or face a cut in Marshall Plan aid." This move, according to the dispatch, was "interpreted as a suggestion that the Venizelos cabinet might resign."

* * *

FROM the other side of the world a similar story was reported last week. Conditions in Korea, it appears, also are not to the liking of Secretary Acheson. On April 7 he announced to the press that he had delivered a warning to the Korean ambassador in Washington that unless the Korean government undertook a

Chinese Press Views MACARTHUR

These cartoons, from the Shanghai Giefang Rhbao, show the attitude of the Chinese press toward American policy in Japan. The cartoon on the left shows MacArthur first releasing Japanese war criminals, awarding them "model war criminal" medals and weapons, while the Potsdam agreement lies in shreds on the floor, then sending them out to commit aggression according to the plan on his desk. On the right, MacArthur is shown feeding a bowl full of "fascist germs", who are labeled Hirohito and other prominent Japanese. In the center, MacArthur is represented as Sinbad, releasing Japanese werewolves from a jar labeled "island nest of war criminals."

general housecleaning, the country might lose American military and economic aid. Specifically, Secretary Acheson called for stabilization of the economy and the holding of national elections before the end of next month.

In Seoul, capital of Korea, President Syngman Rhee was greeted with angry shouts when he told the National Assembly of Acheson's threat. However, President Rhee indicated that he would endeavor to comply with his benefactor's requests. Elections, he said, would be held next month as Acheson demanded, rather than in November as originally planned.

* * *

THESE exchanges between the United States and her "allies," while not revealing anything startling or unknown, do serve to disclose publicly and undisguisedly two important facts.

1) The supplying of money and arms to corrupt, reactionary regimes does not automatically make such governments stable and dependable, nor does it eliminate popular internal discontent. In fact, the reverse is frequently the result, in that corruption and reaction frequently increase, as does popular unrest.

In the case of both Greece and Korea hundreds of millions of American dollars have been advanced to suppress communist-led people's forces and to stifle nationwide popular criticism, as well as to stabilize the countries' finances. Neither of these objectives has been accomplished in either country.

2) Despite the many protestations to the contrary, American aid does have definite strings attached to it.

In the case of Greece it amounts to giving the US ambassador power to threaten stoppage of further aid unless his "suggestions"—heightened government efficiency, a reduction in the size of the cabinet and greater decentralization of administration—are complied with.

In the case of Korea the control is even more direct. The Secretary of State himself simply calls in the Korean ambassador and tells him not only what his government must do, but when it must be done. Acheson's complete indifference to the feelings of the Korean government and people is shown by the fact that the whole story is subsequently released to the American press.

The problems and headaches of the new American Empire—founded to a large extent upon the remains of the disintegrating older empires—are unending. One day there is crisis and disaster in China. The next, despite the expenditure of vast sums and the shipment of huge stocks of arms to American handymen, similar situations confront the US in such widely separated areas as Greece and Korea.

And thus it will continue until the day when America gets a new government with a new foreign policy.

25 Years Ago In *The China Weekly Review*

China Changes . . .

April 11, 1925

After all, the Europeans and the Chinese are not so very dissimilar when it comes down to a question of Imperialism: both are human, and one of the foundation instincts of humanity is that of acquisition. And from acquisitiveness on a national scale comes national imperialism. Therefore one cannot help concluding that the Peking correspondent who remarked that time is now more important than it was when China lived down the Tartar invasion, and that it cannot be assumed that China will forever be left alone by the Powers, was correct—and not his critic, Professor Giles, who, after all, has been away from China too long to be quite conversant with conditions here at present. It must be admitted by even the most conservative of us that China has changed somewhat in the past 30 years. And those Chinese, or foreigners, who fall back on the old argument from China's past history that China has gone through equally bad periods or worse than that at present are leaving out of consideration the changes in the rest of the world which have not failed to have a reflex influence upon old China and its "teeming millions."

From: "Professor Giles on Chaos in China"

. . . Or Eternally the Same

I said to myself, as the old junk was towed slowly through the wandering canal, that China had not changed after all. And I was glad. The indolent toiler in the neighboring field looked up from his clods with the same vacant interest as we passed, his blue coat cast aside and his brown back shining in the morning. The little villages were as sleepy and as dirty as ever they were in the old days, with their swarms of dusty children sprawling in the streets, naked and cheerful. Mothers gossiped in the doorways, their shuttles twisting gently with the spinning of coarse cotton thread, and they stopped occasionally to unfasten a well-worn button when a toddling youngster's hungry mouth came nuzzling. The old grandmothers and grandfathers doddered and dozed against a mud wall, in the hot sunshine flies, and all was peace.

From: "China the Eternal" by Pearl S. Buck

10 Years Ago In *The China Weekly Review*

Shensi Province

April 13, 1940

Shensi Province, with a territory of 195,070 square kilometers and a population of 10,069,033, is known as the treasure-house of the Northwest and the cradle of Chinese civilization. It is the most populated and best developed province in the northwestern part of the country.

This province has a 500-mile front along the Yellow River on its eastern border, where the Chinese and Japanese armies have been exchanging cannon fire for many months, but not a single foot of its territory is under enemy occupation. The Yellow River front has a large Chinese force guarding against any possible attack. Occasional actions are also undertaken by Chinese defenders by sending across the river small units to operate behind Japanese lines.

In the opinion of Governor Chiang Ting-wen, Shensi is "the key to the entire North China campaign."

From: "Shensi—A Base of China's Resistance Campaign" by C. Y. W. Meng

Hongkew Bus Conductresses Strike

Japan's labor troubles spread to Shanghai on April 3 when 43 Japanese bus conductresses employed in the Hongkew district by the Central China Urban Motor Transport Company, struck work to enforce a demand for a shorter work-day and other concessions. Japanese Consular Police acted as mediators in an attempt to settle the dispute, but with little result, although the strike was said to have been settled last Saturday. According to Domei, the company made some minor concessions to the girls but declined the demand for a shorter work-day, whereupon half the girls decided to return home to Japan, the company paying each of them Yen 30 to cover travelling expenses.

Honan's Flood Control Project

Yearly floods, with their aftermath of famine and disease, are nearly a thing of the past as the government mobilizes manpower and material for flood prevention.

FROM time immemorial the Yellow River has been known as one of Honan province's main "sorrows," as the floods from this river—as well as its tributaries and a number of other smaller streams in the province—have devastated thousands of acres of farmland with appalling regularity.

Each year the waters of the rivers which flow through the province have dropped a portion of the silt they carry, until in many cases the streams have completely filled up their original beds and broken out of retaining dikes. Sometimes it has been possible to patch up the dikes and divert the waters back into their old courses. In some cases the floods have been impossible to control and the rivers have carved out new channels for themselves in what had previously been fertile farmland.

Worse Under KMT

In recent years the situation has grown progressively worse as the old Kuomintang government paid less and less attention to maintaining the dikes and other essential protection devices. Lakes and flood basins, which used to contain the various rivers' overflow during the high water season, have gradually silted up until their capacity became greatly reduced. Corrupt officials often squeezed what little money the government did appropriate for flood control.

* * *

IN central Honan, the rivers run both lengthwise and crosswise, resulting in a criss-cross network of streams covering the entire area. In the Hsuchang region alone there are 13 major streams. As a result of the change in the course of the Yellow River in 1938, most of the other river beds are blocked up. In addition, KMT neglect resulted in no work being done on their embankments for more than a decade. The result of this situation has been a flood in this area almost every year, affecting thousands upon thousands of peasants and villagers.

According to estimates made by the authorities of the new government, more than 12,000,000 *mou*, (1 mou equals one-sixth of an acre) was flooded, 140 villages completely destroyed and about 1,500,000,000 *catties* (one catty equals 1.102311 pounds or one half kilogram) of grain were lost because of floods last year.

Three hsien, Yenling, Linying and Yencheng, all near Hsuchang, were the three most seriously affected areas of the province last year. In Yenling more than 300,000 *mou*, about half the area of the hsien, were inundated. In Linying more than 200,000 *mou*, about one-fourth of the hsien, and in Yencheng more than 400,000 *mou*, about two-fifths of the hsien, were flooded.

With a view to eliminating this "historical calamity," the new authorities of the Honan Provincial Government mobilized the people throughout the province for large scale work during the winter and spring months. Dikes have been repaired, new channels dug and old ones cleared, large permanently-flooded areas drained and many rivers dredged.

To carry out this huge project the Central People's Government and the provincial government allotted 50,000,000 catties of grain as pay for workers. Thus, in addition to removing the likelihood of another flood this coming year, this project has provided badly needed relief work to the thousands of peasants ruined by last year's floods. Were it not for this program, it is not difficult to imagine the numbers that would have perished from cold and famine before the next harvest.

Emphasis of Program

The provincial government concentrated its efforts in the central part of the province, where it mapped out plans for harnessing the Ying, Shuangtze and Chialu rivers. The other areas of the province were left in the hands of the special administrative organs which were charged with the task of organizing the masses of the people in the various areas to cope with their own local flood control problems.

For several decades the Ying River each rainy season has flooded its entire valley. In 1949 it burst its dikes at 23 places, with the result that more than 456,000 *mou* of standing grain was destroyed.

More than 56,000 people have been mobilized in the hsiens of Hsihua, Yenling, Huaiyang, Shangsui and Taikang to widen and deepen the course of this river and to strengthen and raise the embankments. Of the workers, 31,000, including 2,900 women, come from Hsihua.

When this job is completed, more than 180,000 *mou* of fertile land will be removed from the danger of flooding. In the future, it is estimated, more than 27,000,000 *catties* of wheat will be harvested in the area each year. This project is to be completed in two periods, the first from March 10 to July 15, and from July to the end of November.

Husbands Challenged

An interesting sidelight of the work on this project is that in Nanling hsiang of Hsihua hsien the women have made a compact with their husbands, who are now working on the Ying River dikes, pledging that they will cook their food at home and at the same time see to it that not one *mou* of land lies uncultivated. The husbands have accepted this challenge and have promised to complete the flood control project before schedule.

The Shuangtze River is a branch of the Chialu River, about 300 *li* (one li is approximately one-third of a mile) long. With its repeated flooding, thousands of people in Yenling, Fukou and Weichuan, especially those in the Yellow River flooded area, have lost their homes.

More than 70,000 people are now working to strengthen the old dikes,

In addition to neglect, the KMT often destroyed or weakened dikes for military purposes. In some cases dikes were simply breached in attempts to flood areas held or menaced by the PLA. Picture at left shows a section of a dike near Kaochai which was weakened by cutting trenches and erecting pillboxes in the embankment. This dike was held by the Nationalist 220th Battalion of the 74th Brigade of the 55th Division. The district was liberated on July 31, 1949. Center picture shows farmers atop a new embankment nearing completion, while picture at right shows peasants hauling materials for dike repair and construction.

to build new dikes and deepen the bed of the Shuangtze River in order to, as they say, recover their homes. The enthusiasm of the workers is illustrated by the fact that those repairing the dikes on the Hungyeh Channel, a section about eight kilometers long, completed the job in six days, just 14 days ahead of schedule.

When the dikes have been repaired along the Shuangtze River, a number of small scale "water-works" such as water wheels for irrigation and grain grinding can be rebuilt, thus aiding in the restoration of the area's economy. This project, begun on the first of March, is expected to be completed before the wheat harvest.

Chialu River

During the past several decades this river regularly flooded, inundating extensive regions in the Chengchow and Chengmou regions. In addition to the mobilized peasants and workers in the area, the provincial government has dispatched a large number of troops from Kaifeng to participate in the work, particularly on dike repair which is the most urgent phase. The work is expected to be completed within two months' time.

In southern Honan dike construction along the Sha River in the Nanyang region and on the Kan River in Tenghsien and the Sinyeh region is in full swing.

In Paofeng, Yahsien and Hsiangcheng in western Honan, the Flood Control Committee has recently been inaugurated to fill the gaps in the dikes of the Chan River so as to eliminate the possibility of floods this spring and summer.

In Kushih, on the Honan-Hupeh border, the local government has begun dike repair work on the Pailu or White Dew River, about 300 *li* in length. When this project is completed more than 100,000 *mou* of flooded land will be brought back into cultivation.

* * *

UNLESS one has lived in Honan in recent years it is difficult to appreciate the effect which this extensive flood prevention campaign is having and will have upon the people of this province.

At best life has always been a difficult and dangerous struggle against the yearly threat of flood. In recent years the KMT not only neglected necessary maintenance work, but at times actually destroyed dikes for "military" purposes. All the while the peasants and townspeople were forced to pay levies for non-existent flood control work.

Kaifeng Example

One of the first examples of the changed situation was in Kaifeng just after its liberation by the PLA. For many years the city had a salt industry located on some suburban lowlands. Through years of neglect a stream running through the area had silted up to such an extent that the salt lands were flooded, thus rendering jobless a large number of salt workers.

Almost immediately following liberation, the new authorities mobilized some 5,000 unemployed laborers in the city—many of whom were former salt workers—and put them to work dredging the silt from the stream bed. As the water receded the salt workers were able to resume their old occupations.

It is such acts as this which have demonstrated to the people of Honan the real difference between the corrupt, self-seeking KMT regime and the new people's administration. While the former let the country go to rot and ruin, devoting its main efforts to lining the pockets of its higher officialdom and suppressing any popular manifestations of dissatisfaction, the new regime demonstrates by constructive work, energetically and efficiently carried out, that its chief concern is the welfare of the people.

— *MARK M. LU*

The Story of Two Mr. Lees

THE radiogram reproduced below, which arrived last week, is one of the more interesting messages which the Review has received in some time.

EDITOR CHINA WEEKLY REVIEW
SHANGHAI

I PROTEST MOST STRONGLY LISTING MY NAME AS CONTRIBUTING EDITOR YOUR MAGAZINE WITH WHICH I HAVE HAD NO CONNECTION WHATEVER STOP I HAVE NO SYMPATHY ITS EDITORIAL AIMS AND AM GREATLY DAMAGED BY BEING IDENTIFIED WITH IT STOP REQUEST MY NAME BE REMOVED AND RETRACTION PRINTED STOP PLEASE REPLY

DUNCAN C. LEE
ATTORNEY FOR CIVIL AIR TRANSPORT

WASHINGTON DC

The editor's first reaction was one of puzzlement. However, a second glance brought enlightenment when we re-read the signature. The Review does list Mr. Duncan C. Lee as a contributing editor. The Review's Duncan C. Lee is a long-time contributor, originally from Kaifeng, recently from Shanghai and from now on, Peking. "Our" Mr. Lee and "CAT's" Mr. Lee are two distinct personalities, and we imagine about as far apart in most ways as are Peking and Washington. Peking's Mr. Lee works for the Chinese Postoffice and also writes very informative articles for the Review. Washington's Mr. Lee works for General Chennault.

The more we thought about it, the more we appreciated the Washington Duncan C. Lee's indignant message. We could even picture the circumstances under which it may have been written.

Perhaps this Mr. Lee was, the moment before, sitting in his Washington office busily thinking up new legal stratagems for laying claim to the Chinese government's airplanes impounded in Hongkong, or in dutifully carrying out some such legal chore for his employers. Such a scene, we could visualize, being violently interrupted by an angry Chennault or Willauer, who had just read the latest comment upon themselves in the Review and had by chance noticed the name Duncan C. Lee in the Review's title page, calling up their lawyer and demanding to know what was going on.

Poor, baffled Mr. Duncan C. Lee of Washington! Suddenly being suspected of having "connections" with —possibly even of giving away company secrets to— a paper he probably never heard of until that moment.

Naturally we would hate to see Washington's Duncan C. Lee joining the ranks of the unemployed because another man with the same name has written frequent articles on various subjects for a publication which has printed quite a bit of "background" information on the activities of CAT partners Chennault and Willauer. Thus, while we are unable to print a "retraction" or change our masthead since we do have a flesh and blood Mr. Duncan C. Lee writing for us, we are quite prepared to say that we don't know General Chennault's Duncan C. Lee.

Of course, this thing theoretically could have worked both ways. We might have heard of CAT's Mr. Lee and been disheartened over having a contributing editor connected with Civil Air Transport. But then that couldn't have happened. We know our Mr. Lee better than Chennault appears to know his Mr. Lee.

Economic Conditions in Hungjao Village

Conditions in this suburban Shanghai village illustrate some of the problems which must be dealt with in the forthcoming agrarian reform in East China.

INTEREST in landlord-tenant relations in this part of China has increased greatly in recent months as the time for the beginning of land reform has drawn nearer. Immediately after the liberation some observers claimed that because of the large metropolitan centers in this region agrarian problems are not as serious as in other areas of the country.

Those following this line of reasoning frequently claimed that the "modernizing influences" of the cities upon the surrounding rural areas have so transformed the old feudal society that there actually is no great land "problem" in East China.

As a result of the expression of such views a number of writers and students of rural society have gone to particular pains to explain the exact nature of farm conditions in this area, pointing out that while it is quite true that the presence of many modern cities in East China has had a great effect upon country life, "feudalistic exploitation" of the vast majority of the peasantry has been just as heavy as in other areas.

While there has never been much doubt among informed circles of the need for changes in landlord-tenant relations and other aspects of rural life, the questions of "when?" and "how?" were resolved with the announcement in the local press on March 22 that the East China Military and Political Commission had issued a directive calling for the completion of land reform within two years in all of East China with the exception of Taiwan.

After the autumn harvest of 1950, the directive stated, land reform will be started in the newly liberated areas of Shantung, Kiangsu, Anhwei and Chekiang and a part of Fukien where preparations have been completed. In areas where preliminary preparations have not yet been completed, the distribution of land may be postponed until after the autumn harvest of 1951.

In preparation for land reform, teams of rural workers have been conducting surveys in the different communities of this area, compiling statistical reports of actual conditions of the farmers. A number of these surveys have been summarized in the local press in recent months.

One of the clearest pictures of life in an East China village was given by Feng Yi, writing in the March 2 issue of the *Economics Weekly* who described conditions prevailing in Hungjao village. While the situation in this village may not be exactly typical of villages for the entire area, since its economy is so profoundly influenced by its nearness to Shanghai, this survey does illustrate the general nature of the rural problem in this area. The article also provides the answer to whether or not land reform is needed in the metropolitan, "modernized" area of East China.

* * *

HUNGJAO village, located in the Lunghwa district in the western suburbs of Shanghai, is largely inhabitated by farmers who grow vegetables, cotton, wheat or soya beans for a living. Owing to proximity to the city, the farmers there usually send all their agricultural produce to Shanghai with the exception of the portion retained for their own use. Thus, the commodity economy is quite developed in the village.

Vegetable planters seldom bring their products from the village directly to Shanghai as both time and man power do not permit this. Instead, they consign their goods to the vegetable hongs in the village, which usually charge 5 percent commission on the proceeds of the goods sold. Thus the exploitation of farmers by the vegetable hongs is very heavy.

Hungjao has a total population of 1,432. Apart from those born in the village, population also includes residents from Kiangsu, Chekiang, Anhwei and Shantung provinces.

Land Ownership

The village has a total of 312 families of which 199 have landlord-tenant relations. A breakdown of the 199 families is given in Table I.

As may be seen from this table, landlords and rich peasants who form only 10.5 percent of the total number of families in the Hungjao village own 717.4 *mou* (1 mow=1/6 acre) of land, representing 57.1 percent of the total acreage of the village. Middle-class and poor peasants who constitute 44.8 percent of the total number of families own only 267.1 *mou* representing 21.3 percent of the total acreage of land. The unequal distribution of the land ownership is quite obvious.

Since landlords and rich peasants hold such a large acreage, why is it

Table I.

Class Distinction	No. of Families	Percentage	No. of Persons	Percentage
Landlords	8	4.0	38	3.9
Rich peasants	13	6.5	73	7.6
Middle-class peasants	32	16.2	155	16.2
Poor peasants	57	28.6	256	26.6
Merchants	49	24.6	272	28.2
Petty laborers	21	10.6	83	8.7
Peddlers	16	8.0	73	7.6
Teachers	2	1.0	11	1.1
Others	1	0.5	1	0.1
	199	100.0	962	100.0

	Acreage of Personal Land (Mou)	Percentage	Land Rented from Others (Mou)	Percentage
Landlords	483.0	38.4	3.2	0.9
Rich peasants	234.4	18.7	18.3	5.2
Middle-class peasants	155.3	12.4	100.4	28.6
Poor peasants	111.8	8.9	169.5	48.2
Merchants	182.3	14.5	26.6	7.6
Petty laborers	40.0	3.2	25.5	7.3
Peddlers	43.0	3.4	7.2	2.0
Teachers	5.5	0.4	0.8	0.2
Others	1.2	0.1	—	—
	1,256.5	100.0	351.5	100.0

Class Distinction	Land Rented to Others (Mou)	Percentage	Self-Cultivated Land (Mou)	Percentage
Landlords	462.7	57.4	23.5	2.9
Rich peasants	152.8	18.9	99.9	12.4
Middle-class peasants	44.8	5.6	210.9	26.3
Poor peasants	6.0	0.7	275.3	34.3
Merchants	103.3	12.8	105.6	13.2
Petty laborers	19.3	2.4	46.2	5.8
Peddlers	14.9	1.9	35.3	4.4
Teachers	2.0	0.3	4.3	0.5
Others	—	—	1.2	0.2
	805.8	100.0	802.2	100.0

that they rent from others 21.5 *mous* as shown in Table I? This does not mean that, besides cultivating their own land, the landlords and rich peasants also cultivate the land rented from others. Generally, they have secured control of the land intended for graveyards by means of feudalistic or political influence from the people of Shanghai or other districts. No rent is charged for such lands according to the usual practice, and all that is required is a little present of vegetables to be given to the owner by the caretaker concerned. After they have taken control of such lands, landlords or rich peasants rent them at high prices to poor peasants. Rich peasants, who also do labor work, usually keep such lands, if fertile, for their own cultivation, renting out only the barren portion of their own lands.

The table further shows that the landlord families have a total of 38 persons and their self-cultivated lands total only 23.5 *mou*, representing five percent of the total number of their personal land. The remaining 95 percent is rented out for profit.

On the other hand, poor peasant families total 57 with 256 persons and possess 111.8 *mou* of land, averaging only a little over 0.4 *mou* of land each person. How can they make a living? They are compelled to rent land from landlords and rich peasants. As shown in Table I, the land rented by poor peasants amounts to 169.5 *mou*, representing 48 percent of the total amount of land rented.

Merchants in the Hungjao village also do farming work. If they relied only on their business income, they would be unable to support their families. Consequently, they utilize their leisure time for agricultural work.

Petty laborers include such people as handicraft workers and pedicab drivers. The term peddlers refers to vegetable vendors, fish-mongers and sundry goods traders. They own the smallest amount of land which they use for their own cultivation.

Renting System

The renting system in the Hungjao village is very complicated for there are several kinds. One is called the "fixed rent," the rates of which vary, depending on the fertility of the land concerned. It ranges from one *tou* (1 tou is 1/10 of a picul or about 18 pounds) of rice per *mou* to the maximum of one or more than one picul of rice per *mou* for one year. The list of rents in the Hungjao village, compiled as a result of an investigation conducted on December 31, last year, is shown in Table II.

The second kind, the "sub-renting" category, is subdivided into two types. In one the landlord rents out his land and shoulders no burden whatsoever for the leased land. In the other, both the landlord and the tenant contribute an equal share of seeds and manure and after the harvest, the grain yield is divided according to contract, generally in the ratios of 50 to 50, 30 to 70 and 40 to 60.

Tenants are required to notify landlords in advance before collecting the vegetables, otherwise they will be penalized for burglary.

The third kind is similar to a mortgage. When a landlord is in urgent need of money, he can pledge his land to a tenant for cultivation. The term of such a mortgage is fixed by mutual agreement. Before the expiration of the contract, the ownership of the land temporarily belongs to the tenant. The landlord's exploitation in this type of renting is very heavy. The tenant has to deliver to the landlord from three to five piculs of rice per *mou* of land in advance in one lot for a rental period ranging from one to five years. During the period of mortgage, the tenant pays no further rent and the landlord pays no interest for the loan. But the contract generally stipulates that upon expiration, the loan is to be returned in cash but not according to commodity prices. Due to the continuous depreciation of currency during the Kuomintang days, the money returned upon expiration of the loan was frequently nothing more than the equivalent of one box of matches.

More often than not, crafty landlords were not actually in need of funds and yet pledged their lands at exorbitant charges. They then used the rice money for issuing high interest loans, buying new lands, doing business in cities or for speculative operations. Upon expiration of the loan, all that they had to do was to return to the tenants a nominal sum to redeem their mortgage.

The fourth type of renting consists in the advance payment of three or five years of rent by a tenant before using the landlord's land. This is the worst kind of exploitation, and was quite rampant during the Kuomintang reactionary period. Now, tenants are required to pay only one year's rent in advance.

The fifth kind is the renting of lands assigned for graveyards. In such cases, most landlords are in Shanghai. When a landlord has bought a piece of land to be used for graveyards, he still allows the original owner to use it for cultivation. The latter is not required to pay rent but only to take care of the ground for the urban landlord and to make a little present of fresh vegetables during grave sweeping and other festivals.

The last kind is that no rent at all is charged for use of land either because the tenant is a relative or is a friend of the landlord. But the number of such instances is very few.

Table II.

Rent in rice in tou per mou of land	Total number of mou	Percentage of land rented
0.51— 1.50	2	1.6
1.51— 2.50	8.2	6.5
2.51— 3.50	22.6	17.8
3.51— 4.50	24.7	19.4
4.51— 5.50	35.4	27.9
5.51— 6.50	19.7	15.5
6.51— 7.50	10.3	8.1
7.51—10.50	4.1	3.2
	127.0	100.0

Exploitation by Hongs

Vegetables from the Hungjao village pass through many hands before they finally reach the consumers. Why doesn't the farmer transport them directly to the municipal area instead of selling them through vegetable hongs? The chief reasons are that the farmer has no leisure time and he lacks the necessary means of transportation. At the same time, vegetable prices always fluctuate. Therefore, farmers and vendors cannot find a reasonable basis for fixing the prices of vegetables. Under such circumstances, both parties prefer to trade with vegetable hongs.

Vegetable hongs are truly intermediary exploiters. Just for completing the so-called "notarial" procedures for farmers with vegetable vendors, they charge the farmers 5 cercent commission (in pre-liberation days, the commission was as high as 10 percent). If we add all the commissions paid by a farmer to a vegetable hong during a given year, they would come to a staggering sum.

After having purchased vegetables from vegetable hongs, vegetable vendors do not sell their goods straight to consumers. Instead, they sell them to vegetable stalls in market places or provision hongs in downtown districts. Only a fraction of the vegetables is sold directly to consumers. A number of vegetable vendors sell their goods to vegetable hongs in Zicawei or Shih Lu Pu, which in turn sell them to market stalls. The number of times the vegetables change hands is well-nigh inconceivable.

World Youth Week Celebrations

Shanghai's Chinese and foreign youth celebrate World Youth Week with city-wide meetings, exhibitions. Keynote is world peace and crushing of warmongers.

THE youth of China have had a long history of revolutionary activities carried out in spite of violent persecutions by the Kuomintang. Many were arrested and even murdered by Kuomintang secret agents. The tragic shooting of demonstrating students in Nanking in April, 1949 added one more blot to the hideous record of atrocities of Chiang Kai-shek's regime.

But each act of terrorism only united the youth through their student movements that much stronger. For the youth were reflecting and in fact interpreting for all groups of China the great need of a social change. In this way, though the numbers of organized youth were small in comparison with other groups in China, they were able to play an important role in the final culmination of the Chinese revolution.

They now have the opportunity to be represented in the Central People's Government through representatives in the People's Political Consultative Conference.

The Communist Party of China has recognized their contribution and their value in continuing to participate in the revolution by setting up the New Democratic Youth League of China on New Year's Day, 1949 to serve as the nucleus for mobilizing the country's youth and to be the reserve strength of the Communist Party. The Youth League by the end of 1949 had an enrollment of 1,217,075.

Fight for Peace

WITH the struggle against the warmongers and the fight for peace the keynote, World Youth Week was celebrated throughout China. For the first time in newly liberated China, this occasion could be commemorated in a free and hopeful atmosphere. The celebrations and continuous round of activities from March 21 to March 28 drew unprecedented enthusiasm throughout the country and Shanghai was no exception.

During the week the strains of the March of World Democratic Youth, the official song of the world youth organization, could be heard all over the city. Meetings were held in colleges and schools and students delivered speeches voicing their uniform belief in the cause of liberation of all nations as well as their resolution for the defense of world peace.

Shanghai's youth also combined the celebration with specific actions having a bearing on the current situation in China. Many schools started saving one ounce of rice per day for each person in response to the government's call for austerity and aid to the flood areas.

At Fuhtan University, the branch headquarters of the Youth League, together with the university's Student's Self-Governing Association, arranged a two-day exhibition depicting the history of the student struggle against foreign imperialism and KMT oppression.

On March 26, more than 400 Youth League members from 10 middle schools of the eastern district of Shanghai held a Youth League Day in coordination with the general celebrations. Part of the day's activities consisted of a special report on the present situation, analzying the temporary difficulties caused by KMT-American bombings and pointing out the duties of youth in helping to overcome these problems.

A pictorial exhibition depicting the activities of democratic youth all over the world was held at the Chinese YMCA during the week. The exhibition, which lasted six days, drew more than 10,000 visitors representing virtually all walks of life in Shanghai.

The first section of the exhibit covered the meeting of the International Student Representatives Council at Prague four vears ago and the second representative meeting of the World Democratic Youth, convened at Budapest in 1949. The unforgettable scenes in Moscow, Prague and Budapest where Chinese youth delegates, carrying large pictures of Chairman Mao Tse-tung and General Chu Teh, paraded through enthusiastic crowds of youth representatives from all parts of the world, were included. Pictures showing the activities of Chinese youth, particularly in the liberated areas, occupied a conspicuous position. It showed them taking part in people's councils, in production work on the farms, in building the new industries in the Northeast.

Youth activities in the Eastern democracies and the Soviet Union were also exhibited. Many visitors were eager to write their impressions of the exhibit in an album as they left. One wrote, "The pictures told us how the world youth have been growing stronger and stronger despite all sorts of difficulties because of their untiring efforts for construction and development. The glorious record of the history of the international youth movement is the milestone of all democratic countries in the world."

General Meeting

The week's celebrations were climaxed by a general meeting of Shanghai youth from all walks of life held on March 25. Representatives of factory workers, farmers, soldiers, students, women, science, cultural and art workers, and the New Democratic Youth League together with 80 Soviet youth, 20 Koreans, 10 Polish, 15 overseas Chinese from the countries of Southeast Asia and 15 Britishers and Americans, totalling in all more than 1,300 people, attended the rally.

Speakers from all the countries represented voiced the cry of youth all over the world for world peace. Though each spoke in his own language the intensity and earnestness of each person's remarks were clearly understood by everyone present even before the translators could finish. There was no question that the youth of Shanghai also demanded world peace along with youth all over the world. It was most effective and moving to hear a Korean, a New Zealander, an American, an overseas Chinese, a Pole, a Soviet citizen all express the same desire.

The week's celebrations in Shanghai included special movie showings, radio broadcasts and athletic events. For five days at five different theaters a special showing was given of the newsreel "Great Friendship" produced by the Peking Film Production Company. The picture shows the arrival in China of the Soviet delegation of Cultural, Art and Science Workers, the opening of the Asia-Australian Labor Conference in Peking, and the activities of the Chinese delegation of Democratic Youth in Hungary.

More than 60,000 special rate tickets were sold to the city's young workers, students and women. One of the most impressive sights in the film shows youth representatives from all over the world carrying a huge picture of Chairman Mao Tse-tung.

Press and Radio Reports

Shanghai's newspapers devoted a large amount of space throughout the week to the various youth activities in addition to special articles concerned with the occasion. The Shanghai People's Broadcasting Station offered special programs, including choruses of Chinese folk songs and reports of local youth activities. The whole city was made aware that it was World Youth Week and that world youth insists on peace.

Bookstores joined the city-wide celebrations with special discount sales of books and magazines. The East China Agency of the Youth Publication Board offered an eight-day cheap sale of books on the youth movement. More than 20,000 copies of some 20 books, including the newly published "The World Federation of Democratic Youth and Its Four Years' Work," and "All the Youth in China Unite and March Forward under the Banner of Mao Tse-tung," were sold to young workers, shopkeepers, students and PLA members. Collective orders were placed by young staff members from a number of organizations including the Railway Administration and the Tele-Communication Administration. Bookstores throughout the city were crowded and reported brisk sales all week.

Shanghai's youth have concluded their annual celebrations in conjunction with youth all over the world during which they held the spotlight. The voices of youth which during Youth Week reiterated their determination in the struggle for peace and democracy will resound all over the world. With their vigor, their hope and their unshakable belief in justice and international unity, they will certainly make a great contribution toward sweeping away the shadows of war cast by the reactionary ruling cliques of the imperialist countries.

— ALFRED KIANG

CHINA AFFAIRS

THE NORTHEAST

Production Boost

THE heart of China's industrial mainstay, the Northeast, has trained its sights on boosting industrial production from 35 to 43 percent of the area's total production by the end of this year. A plan envisioning this increase was announced on April 6, and some idea of the enormous increase in output anticipated can be garnered from the fact that agricultural output in the Northeast is to rise by 37 percent this year and thus industry will not only have to keep pace but also will have to surpass agriculture.

The latest plan, drawn up by the Northeast People's Government, calls for a 93 percent increase in the output of state owned factories which now occupy six-sevenths of Northeastern industrial capacity. Capital equipment is to form 79 percent of the enlarged total industrial output. With the realization of the plan by the end of this year the Northeast will have a balanced budget whereby 54 percent of its expenditures will be invested in industry.

Based on the increasing strides made in industry and agriculture during 1949, this ambitious plan will see the Northeast through the year. During its first year of complete liberation the area witnessed a quarter of a million new workers going into state owned industry. During this same period, not only was the Northeast government able to maintain sufficient supplies for the armies south of the Great Wall but it also was able to bring about a steady improvement in the general living standards. Real wages rose by 27 percent during 1949 while prices were relatively stable, according to the *New China News Agency*.

Workers' Welfare

A SURVEY just made of workers' welfare and safety in the industrial Port Arthur-Dairen area shows that to date 55 cooperatives, 72 public baths, 116 club dining halls, 10 large nurseries and 54 hospitals and clinics have been established for a total population of just under one million.

The Dairen-Port Arthur Workers' Hospital, set up two years ago, is providing a high level of all-around service and has treated 135,000 workers and their dependents free of charge or at small, nominal payments. The recently built, well-equipped hostel, named "Red Star House," housing 500 Dairen bachelor dock workers is very popular. There is also a "Home for the Aged People."

Trade unions, while concerned with stimulating the greatest possible development in production, are very strict about safety precautions and workers are encouraged all the time to come forward with suggestions for further improvements. Lathes operated by electricity are rapidly replacing the old fashioned types and safety covering is a rule in most factories. The Kwangho Machine Plant is now entirely concentrated on large scale production. In the big Dairen dockyards, safety covering has been installed for lathes and protection nets over bridgeways to ships to avoid accidents. In addition, no crane may be overloaded.

Special provisions are made in high temperature and chemical factories to safeguard workers' health, including special working clothes and special food. Workers here also receive extra pay.

SHANGHAI

Cotton Mills' Comeback

NORMAL production conditions have been resumed following a successful campaign to overcome the obstacles brought on by the KMT bombing of February 6. Following this heavy raid, public and privately owned cotton mills at one stage came to a complete standstill because of the disruption of power supply.

As a result of an increasing improvement in the power situation various mills and their plants operated on night shifts. It has been estimated that compared with January the various plants only operated one-third the number of spindles during February. The output of cloth was reduced by more than two-thirds during this period. However, the efficiency of the workers did not show any marked decrease.

Because of improved power conditions the output of the government China Textiles Industries was brought up to 75 percent of its January level for yarn. During the week ending February 4, the total output for private mills in the city was 7,824 pieces of yarn and 48,079 pieces of cloth. The total output during the week of February 12 was 418 pieces of yarn and 1,470 pieces of cloth. In staging a comeback Shanghai's mills during the week ending March 25 produced 6,106 pieces of yarn and 40,056 pieces of cloth.

Corruption Charges

PENG Yu-nien, investigation official of the Bureau of Industry and Commerce will face the Shanghai People's Tribunal on charges of corruption. The case was referred to the judicial authorities after Peng had failed to satisfy a mass meeting of his colleagues.

The official is alleged to have extorted JMP6,000,000 last winter while investigating the capital left behind in Shanghai by warlord Yen Hsi-shan of Shensi province and ex-premier of the refugee KMT regime. The accused was later relieved of his post and asked to repay the money in terms of parity units.

NATIONAL

Flood Control

THE North Kiangsu plain is the scene of more than 250,000 peasants working at top speed on the Yi River project aimed at warding off the up-to-now everpresent flood danger in one of China's more susceptible areas. About one-third of the work which will see safety secured for about one million acres of land has already been completed. The entire plan calls for diverting the treacherous Yi to the sea by 1952.

The peasants engaged on this project stem from the ranks of those hit hardest by last year's floods which were accentuated by the long years of Kuomintang neglect and mismanagement in the area. The government is paying enough to feed all those working as well as their 500,000 dependents for the entire summer through the harvest time. In outlaying this huge sum to keep those working on the project fed, the government is helping to assure them and other peasants in the area that they will be free in the future from the periodic floods which have ruined their homes and crops for centuries.

This huge undertaking has been made possible largely as a result of the successful centralization of grain supplies which has been carried out by the government. The peasants are reported to be bending every effort to complete the 1950 task of the entire project.

* * *

MEANWHILE, the people's government of Kwangtung province is spending large sums of money on dike repair work along the North, East, West and Han Rivers — this southern province's four major rivers. Repair work, which is expected to be completed before the monsoon season begins in May, will safeguard the farms along the rivers against flood. Prior to the PLA liberation of Kwangtung last summer, the North and West rivers overflowed their banks submerging large tracts of farmland. Immediately following liberation, the government started a work relief program to aid the peasants whose farms were damaged. Under the present program the peasants are now earning four and a half pounds of rice per day for work on the dikes and simultaneously are insuring their own future livelihood.

* * *

THIRTY-FIVE thousand peasants and PLA men have just completed a vast water conservancy and flood prevention project along the Yangtze river in Hunan province 10 days ahead of schedule. The project,

located at Tatung Lake, took eight weeks and saw the building of a new system of dikes between Tatung Lake and huge Tungting Lake in order to contain the floods emanating from Hunan's rivers which spill into Tungting Lake around June each year.

Until now flood waters poured out of Tungting Lake and overfilled the smaller Tatung Lake. The result was that periodically when the Yangtze river waters rose in August, Tatung Lake overflowed and caused heavy damage for miles around. Last summer, when the floods were exceptionally heavy, nearly one-third of the farmland in this region went under water.

Following the early completion of this project Tatung Lake now can serve as a natural reservoir at high water time, taking excess water from the Yangtze in August and thus reducing the heavy flow in the middle and lower reaches of the river. It is estimated that this year alone increased output resulting from the project will repay the government's capital outlay for repair work at least 50 times. This is one of the many similar projects along the Yangtze which are turning former threatened areas into usable farmland.

The Week's Business

Gradually declining prices, easy money market and generally slack trading characterized Shanghai markets during the past week. While several unsound banks closed during the period, local tax authorities announced first period collections of the business tax totaled some 99 percent of expectations.

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DURING the week under review from April 6 to 12, commodity prices maintained a mild downward trend, and the financial situation remained on the easy side. Unsound banks in Shanghai continued to close down.

In the commodity market, quotations dropped by a wider margin during the week than in the previous ones. Medium grade paikeng rice came down from JMP260,000 per picul on April 6 to JMP250,000 per picul on April 11. The quotation of 42's Kincheng cotton yarn dropped from JMP7,400,000 to JMP7,100,000 during the same period. The wholesale commodity price index for the first 10 days of April, according to the compilation of the City People's Government, was 832.63 times (with the prices during the August 21-31 period, 1949 taken as a base of 100). This index marked a decline of some four percent when compared with the figure of 867.12 times for the March 21-31 period.

Business on the whole was slack, and the volume of trading was reduced by some nine percent in the essential commodity markets. Transactions in the cotton yarn market, however, were more brisk than in the previous week, inasmuch as the Shanghai Cotton, Cotton Yarn and Cotton Cloth Corporation collected 888 pieces of cotton yarn from the market during the week ending April 8 and local processing mills and outport merchants began to make purchases. Trading was practically suspended in the cotton cloth market during the week under review, which was because of direct sales of cloth by the Shanghai Cotton, Cotton Yarn and Cotton Cloth Corporation to consumers and by private mills to dyeing and processing mills without going through the market.

The reduced market turnover and the bearish development in commodity prices, while basically attributable to the dull season and extension of the retail net by the state trading corporations, were also promoted by other factors. Take rice for instance, the decline in rice prices in Wusih and other producing areas brought down the quotations in the local market. The weak cotton yarn quotations were partially accounted for by the recovery achieved in the electric power supply, under which textile production has steadily increased.

In the financial market, the Interest Rate Board steadily lowered the interest rates among the banking circles during the week. The interest rate on deposits was slashed from JMP1.10 to JMP1 per mille per day from April 6 to 11, on call loans from JMP5.50 to JMP5 per mille per day, and on interbank loans from JMP3 to JMP2.70 per mille per day. Interest rates on short term deposits were also cut.

The Shanghai Branch of the People's Bank lowered the domestic remittance rates twice during the week, and premiums for remittances from Shanghai to Tientsin and Hankow were cancelled.

According to local reports carried in the *Giefang Rhbao*, the colletion of the first period business tax for the current year, which was completed by the end of March, yielded some JMP197,900,000,000 for the government treasury, or around 99 percent of the total amount scheduled to be collected. The number of taxpayers for the current collection of business tax increased to 103,600 as against some 70,000 in the last collection. The 187 state-operated enterprises in the city paid JMP36,600,000,000 of business tax for the current period. Tax evasion among private enterprises was still reported rampant.

Following is a listing of representative commodity prices.

	April 6 JMP	April 12 JMP
Parity unit	5,792	5,641
US dollar (TT)	41,000	40,000
20's yarn	4,900,000	4,850,000
42's yarn	7,400,000	7,050,000
12-lb. cloth	255,000	255,000
Rice, 1st grade	270,000	265,000
Battleship flour	81,500	78,500
Peanut oil	570,000	490,000
Coal briquette	28,600	26,000
Kerosene, Kuokwang	157,000	157,000
Koo Pan soap	190,000	181,000

Ban Atomic Weapons

ABSOLUTE prohibition of the use of atomic weapons was called for by the China Committee of the World Peace Congress. The resolution voiced support for the resolutions adopted at the recent World Congress of the Defenders of Peace held in Stockholm. The China Committee declaration stated in part: "On behalf of China's peace-loving people, we enthusiastically support all resolutions and appeals of the third session of the Permanent Committee of the World Congress of the Defenders of Peace. The Permanent Committee has passed an important resolution. This resolution demands unconditional prohibition of the atomic weapon as a weapon used for aggression and wholesale extermination of the people. It also declares that the government which first applies the atomic weapon against any country is to be regarded as a war criminal. This resolution solemnly expresses the aspirations of the majority of the people throughout the world and utters a serious warning against the adventurers now preparing atomic war . . . "

KMT Booty Taken Over

BILLIONS of People's Dollars' worth of machinery and vital supplies left behind by the Kuomintang all over China has been taken over by the government. A stocktaking operation lasting several months has been carried out for supplies discovered in state owned warehouses in Shanghai, Tsingtao and other large cities on orders of the Government Administration Council.

Shanghai's haul was enormous. Warehouses had been left uninventoried by the fleeing KMT and 50,000 cases of machinery and other goods were discovered in the stores of one single public utility firm. American made goods were greatly in evidence and ran the gamut from American manufactured airplane parts and other US aid material, mixed in with cosmetics and frying pans, to Japanese army supplies.

The Shantung port of Tsingtao, after three months of investigation, unearthed an estimated 160,000,000,000 People's Dollars' worth of supplies. Valuable machinery and supplies also were recovered in Sian, Chungking and other cities in Szechuen province. Four Chungking arsenals turned up with 200 machines along with 2,500 tons of machine parts, sheet steel and scrap iron.

Transport Labor Reform

ONE of the chief remnants of feudalism in China, the gang labor system in hiring transport workers, has been officially abolished by the Government Administration Council of the Central People's Government. Similar to union racketeering in the West, the labor gangs have

Articles of Interest:

State Planning for Industry

State-operated economic organizations are now aiding industries and ensuring supplies of basic needs of the people. An article in the March 11, 1950 Shanghai edition of the Ta Kung Pao describes the functions of state-owned economic units in North China.

* * *

THE immediate task after the liberation of Peking and Tientsin, as in other areas, was to ensure the supply of food, fuel and clothing to the people. In this task, the state-owned economic units were able to lead the way with carefully worked out plans for production. They at once adopted measures to safeguard the sources of raw materials, to free production capital, to market manufactured goods, and to rally and inform the laboring masses.

Some examples of the performance of these functions are given:

The state-owned North China Food Corporation, adopting the slogan of "Flour for the People!", set out to develop flour refining mills in Peking, Tientsin and Paoting, with the result that 15 flour mills now supply the corporation's program. This was more than 90 percent of the total productive power of Tientsin's flour industry.

The corporation had its problems. Of these, the supply of raw materials was the chief. "In July, 17,000,000 catties of wheat were borrowed from the government to supply the mills. In August, the price of wheat soared in producing areas, while the price in Tientsin lagged behind, halting the supply. This grave situation was relieved by the setting up of a wheat purchasing committee. In October, large quantities of wheat were transported from different zones, and by November the problem of raw materials was fundamentally solved...During the past year more than 270,000,000 catties of wheat have been turned into 3,300,000 bags of flour. The dependence upon Shanghai for flour supply is past."

The North China Coal and Iron Corporation undertook to "bolster industrial and agricultural production, stabilize the price of coal, and furnish sufficient fuel to cities and the people." Of the total quantity of coal distributed last year by this state-run organ, 7.96 percent went to state-operated enterprises and 16.45 percent to private undertakings.

The boosting of cotton production, a first priority in New China, was assigned to the state-owned North China Cotton, Yarn and Cloth Corporation, and "from September to December alone, more than 24,000,000 catties of raw cotton have been furnished, thus making it possible for seven factories of the China Textile Company to maintain their operations both day and night." This corporation also supplied privately-owned factories.

The work of the North China Department Store, another state unit, was to channel raw materials for industrial production, and to aid distribution. This department store "formed connections with more than 400 factories, thus greatly widening the scope of distribution for their products."

Exchange of materials between cities and rural districts was another function of these government economic units. This development of the exchange of materials between cities and villages has basically overcome the blindness of commercial production and distribution, and formed the basis for a well-planned and organized state." Since last September, the article reports, the North China Food Corporation has transported 400,000 tons of food from the Northeast for the consumption of the newly liberated people of North China. "The Coal and Iron Corporation has exchanged sulphur produced in North China for steel and iron of the Northeast, thus increasing the production of steel and iron works, which in turn have supplied agriculture and industry in North China with necessary implements." East China, the article relates, has been supplied with coal, while Shanghai has, in turn "met the demand of North China by supplying cotton cloth." While from Central China, the North China Food Corporation has transported wheat to feed its flour mills, the Coal and Iron Corporation has sent coal back to Central China.

These government economic units consider the fostering of cooperatives of major importance. "More than 60 percent of Tientsin's population," the writer of this article states, "has now been organized within the sphere of cooperatives." He continues: "To help the growth of the cooperatives, the North China Food Corporation supplied them with 83,000,000 catties of food between March and December last year. Prices for these supplies were usually 10 percent lower than the official prices for coarse food and five percent lower for fine food. The Cotton Yarn and Cloth Corporation supplied the cooperatives with 4,600 bales of yarn and 130,000 pieces of cotton cloth during last year and has decided this year to supply 2,200 bales of yarn to the cooperatives of Hopei province to promote textile production."

Another important achievement of the state-operated economic units has been the stabilizing of commodity prices.

operated in the form of secret societies, ruling whatever sphere they have power to control. The leaders had been able to decide whether a man could work in an industry and how much he should pay for the privilege.

The government order requires that appropriate measures be taken to abolish the system, wipe out the hindrances which it imposes on the circulation of commodities and thus facilitate the development of production and a flourishing economy. According to the order, the governments of all cities concerned will organize transport companies with the assistance of the union concerned and all transport workers with one year's standing in transport are eligible to join the unions and take part in the work of the companies.

All private transport companies may continue to operate under the unified schedule of rates laid down by public transport companies in consultation with private companies. The decision, wiping out an age old evil in Chinese society, was made following the proposal of the First National Congress of Transport Workers.

ECONOMIC

State Revenue Centralized

A balanced budget, regulation of revenue on a national scale and a cut in expenditures are in the offing following a decision by the Government Administration Council to centrally control 1950's expenditures and revenue.

The decision states that the system of taxation, procedure for handling revenue and expenses, basic factors governing wages and salaries of government functionaries and employees of state enterprises, the number of government personnel and the formation of a national budget and a statement of accounts are all to be worked out by the Ministry of Finance. The Finance Ministry is to consult with the ministries and organizations concerned following the ratification of this decision by the Central People's Government.

All national revenue from public grain, customs duties, salt tax, commodity taxes and business tax will be solely at the disposal of the Ministry of Finance. Other income, including the turnover from state enterprises, the yield from stocktaking of warehouses, war trophies, confiscation of properties of traitors and war criminals and state bonds also will accrue to the Ministry. All items of expenditure in the national budget will be paid by the Ministry.

Local governments will have at their disposal revenues from local income tax, stamp duties, taxes on real estate and other taxes of a local character (the upper limits of which are strictly defined by the Central Government). The expenditures, as laid down by the Central Government, which a local government has to cover include administrative expenses for the work of the local people's government, investments in state enterprises under the management of the local government and reconstruction projects of a local character.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

ITALY

Arms for Security

IN sunny Italy military supplies from America and labor unrest were in the news. Left-wing leaders warned the government they would fight to the utmost both the import of American arms and the powers newly given to the police.

A spokesman of the non-Communist "Free" Confederation of Labor said that the unloading of Atlantic Pact arms from New York would not be disturbed. A government spokesman said that troops would be brought in to unload the arms in any ports where the dockers might refuse to touch them. The arms, bound for Italy on the American freighter Exilona, included 155-mm howitzers used in mountain service, 57-mm field pieces and small arms. Both leftist Socialist leader Pietro Nenni and Communist head Palmiro Togliatti declared they would do all they could to fight the Italian government's "war policy."

According to James Bruce, American director of the billion dollar Atlantic Pact armament program, this was a guarantee of security for all concerned. "Italy, the US and the other treaty nations will reap visible rewards in the creation of an atmosphere more favorable to prosperity and stability," he said.

Reaping Rewards

A BAN on labor meetings in factories without the permission of the factory owners and orders enabling provincial prefects to ban public meetings for three months are now in vogue in Italy. Attacking these new police powers, Togliatti accused the center-right coalition government of leading Italy back to fascism. He declared: "The real reason for these repressive measures is to resist popular pressure, pressure which grows from day to day and which derives from hunger, from unemployment, from misery and from revolt against the unbridled luxury of the rich, a terrible insult to the poverty of the overwhelming majority of the Italian people."

Replying to charges of government repression, Interior Minister Mario Scelba insisted that, "We are defending democracy from the tragic fate to which the extremists of the right and left would like to consign it."

Communists and Catholics

The ever-simmering struggle between Catholic and Communist forces in Italy was brought closer to the boiling point by the fatal shooting of six workers during a strike in the industrial town of Modena. Following the shooting, the General Labor Confederation called for protest strikes up and down the country. The Catholic led Independent Confederation told its members to keep clear of political issues and stay on the job.

In a funeral oration for the six dead workers, Communist leader Togliatti denounced Catholic leaders of the government as being responsible for the "murder of the workers." In addition the Vatican was accused of inspiring Christian Democrat internal policy in Italy and therefore directly responsible for the shooting. Catholic leaders in turn accused the Communists and the Cominform of whipping up labor strife in Europe in accordance with a premeditated plan.

While the Christian Democrat paper, *Il Popolo*, advised waiting to determine what degree of provocation the police were submitted to before they opened fire, it was clear that the Modena killings had further widened the rift between the Communist and Catholic unions in Italy. The future seemed destined to see an intensification of the struggle between the two groups.

Small Success

THE "successes" in the realization of American plans in Italy "are less than we had hoped," according to James Zellerbach, administrator of the Marshall Plan commission for Italy. Zellerbach admitted this in a speech celebrating the second anniversary of the Marshall Plan at a banquet in Rome arranged by the Italian-American Chamber of Commerce. The commission head also accused Italian industrialists of having done nothing to expand the domestic market and to keep down growing unemployment which was a threat to social and political stability.

The industrialists of Italy, according to Zellerbach, have done nothing to "open and strengthen" the potential domestic market "which is represented by members of 1,800,000 families of Italian workers who have no work and consequently cannot create a market, and also by the members of 2,000,000 families of semi-unemployed who work only two to three days per week, a little more than 100 days annually." Touching upon the Marshall Plan export policy, Zellerbach revealed that during 1949 Italian exports to the US shrank when compared with 1948. They were $45,000,000 as against $90,000,000.

Concluding his speech, Zellerbach recalled that the US government had spent millions for Italy since the end of the war. In return for this America only wanted one thing—that Italy "become safe and reliable." Underscoring the sharp tone of the American administrator, the Communist Party newspaper, *Unita* stated: "The wind of crisis is blowing in High Marshall Plan spheres. The bosses are noting that business is going from bad to worse and publicly begin to box their servants' ears."

FRANCE

Marshall Plan Replacement

MAURICE Thorez, Secretary-General of the French Communist Party, called for "a peace pact between France, the Soviet Union, the United States, Britain and China to replace the Marshall Plan and the Atlantic Pact. Stating that "peace hangs by a thread," Thorez pointed out the need for a peace pact at the 12th annual congress of the French Communist Party in Paris.

Foreign policy topped the list in Thorez' proposals for Communist action. The proposals included: 1) Denunciation of the Marshall Plan and the Atlantic Pact, active French participation in all efforts tending to the establishment of a democratic peace and reaffirmation of the Franco-Soviet alliance. 2) Absolute prohibition of the atomic bomb and conclusion of a peace pact between the five powers Any government initiating the use of the atomic bomb is to be considered a war criminal. 3) Relations with the West German government should be broken off. 4) An immediate end to war in Vietnam, repatriation of the French expeditionary forces and recognition of the Ho Chi Minh government.

Dealing with party members' errors, he said: "The gravest error is to under-estimate the danger of war and to under-estimate the forces of the working class, the forces of the peace camp." However, Thorez also condemned both those who said war was inevitable and those who said war would help bring about the end of capitalism.

Waiting for Justice

REPORTS from French-held Saigon reveal that the newly independent Kingdom of Cambodia in southwest Indo-China is facing a political and military crisis closely linked with the Vietminh People's forces. These reports state that great unrest has come to the fore in the southwestern parts of Cambodia where leaders of the nationalist Khmers Isaraks recently held a secret conference and decided to fight for Cambodia's full independence from France.

The Vietminh Radio has claimed that nationalist resistance forces in Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam have decided to organize a joint military offensive against French and pro-French forces in all three states. France gave Cambodia independence within the French Union over three months ago, but there is still disagreement on the interpretation of the treaty of independence and the transfer of power has not been carried out.

Meanwhile, French authorities in Saigon have stated that only one aspect of the treaty—the administration of justice—remains to be settled.

BRITAIN

Defense Secrets

A BRITISH government spokesman denounced an American news agency report from The Hague that British and American military chiefs had arranged to keep confidential information from British War Minister John Strachey. The story claimed that arrangements had been made for "a new system of exchanging confidential military information under which top secrets will by-pass John Strachey." Strachey recently was attacked by the London conservative *Evening Standard* for not having disavowed former alleged Communist views. In the early '30's Strachey wrote "The Coming Struggle for Power," one of his best known books.

Dealing directly with The Hague talks, Defense Minister Shinwell revealed that the conference had made considerable progress with plans which have already been developed, and one of the outstanding features was the harmonious relation between the countries represented.

Purges and Neutrality

THE purge of Communists in the civil service is to be "resolutely pusued," according to Prime Minister Atlee. Addressing Parliament, in reply to Conservative M.P. Sir Waldron Smithers, the Labor Party chief stated that it was government policy to make sure that no one known to be a member of the Communist Party or to be associated with it in such a way as to raise legitimate doubts about his reliability was employed on work vital to the security of the state.

Neutrality in any future world war was the policy of Britain's "splinter" Independent Labor Party. A resolution to call upon the government to "declare now that Britain will be neutral in any future world conflict" was brought up before the group's annual conference. The party, which after abandoning political contests returned to the electoral arena in the February general election with no success, also was prepared to discuss a "no conscription" resolution and another "condemning the exploitation of the people's of Africa." The party also had a resolution disapproving of the government's "warm support of the monarchy."

On the Carpet

THE Labor government's precarious political hold brought on an attempted tightening of the reins among the rank and file by party whips. Challengers to rigid party discipline were hustled back into line for challenging party orders.

Chief government whip, William Whitley, with Atlee and Labor Party manager Morrison looking on, talked down malcontents at a private meeting of the Parliamentary Labor Party. Whitley called for a united front on the part of the rank and file in view of growing serious challenges from the Conservative opposition in the evenly divided House of Commons.

Meanwhile, Chancellor of the Exchequer Sir Stafford Cripps disclosed "a further advance in the sterling area's long and arduous campaign to close the dollar gap" with a rise in Britain's gold and dollar reserves of $296,000,000 in the first quarter of 1950. However, Cripps warned against complacency or over-estimating the progress. He said that despite the extent to which last quarter's result benefited by seasonal increases, Britain must expect that a corresponding seasonal decline would adversely affect results in the months immediately ahead.

UNITED STATES

Adequate Defense

AMERICA has gone as far as security would allow in the reduction of funds for arms and national defense according to General Eisenhower's warning to Congress. Testifying before the Senate Appropriations Committee, the general also stated that defense spending would not secure American safety in and of itself. He declared America must maintain a healthy economy.

Several days later, Carl Vinson, chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, called on Congress to vote $583,289,211 for more war

This cartoon, reprinted in the Shanghai *Giefang Rbbao*, depicts the "closely connected interests" of the United States and Great Britain.

planes against the threat of an "atomic blitz." Vinson felt that the present $13,000,000,000 military program will "wither American air power on the vine." He claimed that the President's budget for the fiscal year beginning in July did not assure adequate defense at a time when "the atomic blitz of tomorrow is real, a genuine possibility."

Money No Object

SECRETARY of State Acheson intends to ask Congress for more money for the arms aid program which was launched last year with $1,000,000,000. This need for still further pump priming was stated at the commemoration of the first anniversary of the signing of the 12-nation North Atlantic aliance.

In his budget message last January, President Truman had listed $1,147,500,000 as needed for his military aid program in the 12 months beginning July 1. Apparently this was an underestimate. Defense Secretary Johnson said he though the amount to be asked would not exceed another $1,000,000,000.

One Big Family

AMERICA'S bi-partisan foreign policy, recently floundering slightly under Republican attacks on "Communists" in the Administration, received a stimulant in the appointment of Republican Party political pontiff John Foster Dulles as State Department adviser. Before entering the political arena Acheson's new aide-de-camp was a prominent member of a law firm representing Wall Street banking interests.

Washington apparently felt that this "dramatic gesture" for the cause of a US bi-partisan foreign policy would expedite Congressional action on foreign aid legislation and do much to restore the prestige of American policy abroad. The prevailing theory is that, as far as America's two party system goes, politics should end at the oceans' edges.

The *New York Post* protested against this latest maneuver, and referring to Dulles' recent defeat in running for Senator said: "His return to the State Department's top councils is a desperate Republican attempt to resurrect the statesman who perished in his own rhetoric during his Senate campaign. We see no reason why the President and Dean Acheson should join in this revival movement."

Bridges Sentenced

LONGTIME target of West Coast shipping interests, Harry Bridges, Australian-born president of the CIO Longshoreman's Union, has been found guilty of perjury and conspiracy to defraud the US government. He was given a five-year sentence after being charged with denying he was a Communist when taking out US citizenship in 1945.

Following the decision, a Justice Department spokesman said that steps would be taken to revoke Bridges' citizenship. Along with Bridges two other men were convicted of conspiring to defraud the government. Bridges will appeal his conviction to a higher court.

Bridges, one of America's left-wing union leaders, has been hauled into court several times in the last 10 years on charges of being a Communist. He has been a leader in the movement for keeping the longshoremen's unions on the West Coast out of the hands of right-wing union groups. Sentenced before the war, the Supreme Court at that time reversed the decision which would have meant his deportation.

Call Peace Conference

MORE than 250 prominent American educators, scientists, trade unionists, writers, clergymen and civic

leaders have issued a call for a "mid-century conference for peace" to be held in Chicago on May 29.

Appealing to the American people, they have stated: "We reject the philosophy of those who say that war is inevitable. We affirm that peace is possible. We say that peaceful alternatives to the 'cold war' must be found....We call on the President and Congress to undertake negotiations with the Soviet government to secure the banning of the atomic bomb as the first move toward disarmament."

THE PACIFIC

Philippine Liquidations

THE situation in the Philippine Islands, which some observers have been viewing as still another potential tinderbox in Asia, was tensing up. Official government sources were showing signs of heightened alarm over the political situation. At a press conference in Baguio, President Quirino said that people who identify themselves with the armed dissident movement would be liquidated. He warned Filipinos not to fraternize with the Hukbalahap movement, declaring that anyone found aiding or hiding "outlaws" would be punished as outlaws themselves. The government has outlawed the Huks as well as the Communist Party.

The Huks, who stem from the Philippine guerilla army fighting against the Japanese during the war, have refused to lay down their arms and continued their fight for "social justice" and "agrarian reform." Despite government claims in the past few years of having eliminated them, the Huks have continued to flourish throughout Luzon, mainly in the central part of the island. Top government armed forces planners and constabulary officials are reported readying new strategy for use in the struggle.

Increased "dissident attacks" have been reported by the government which has done much to bring on more appeals by Quirino to the public to fight the outlaws. Quirino said that he will submit a special message to Congress certifying the urgency of funds to finance the organization of combat units. This came a few days after a group, said to be 1,000 strong, attacked a dozen towns within 50 miles of Manila.

Situation Under Control

RENEWED threats of an attack on Manila prompted the police to cancel leaves of absence for the force for Easter. However, President Quirino assured the populace that everything was under control as regards the peace and order situation. Simultaneously, the constabulary in Quezon City, northwest of Manila, threw a cordon around Manila as a precautionary measure.

From Baguio, the president was quoted as saying that nobody should be afraid to drive on the highways and that there was no reason for panic. Reports reaching Manila said heavy fighting was going on two fronts north and south of the city with heavy casualties reported on both sides. Meanwhile, General MacArthur in Tokyo was said to be much concerned about the Philippine situation. This was reported by the Deputy Chief of Staff of the Philippine Army who is freshly returned from a visit to Japan where he conferred with MacArthur and high-ranking SCAP officials.

Draft Dodging

CUSTOMERS for service in Quirino's military forces apparently were few and far between. The fighting in the islands was getting hotter but not many wanted to become "GIs". Despite their president's call to preserve Philippine democracy and fight "dissidents" the youth of Manila were not anxious to join the armed services. Thousands of 20-year olds stayed away from registering for military service. An estimated 10,000 were expected to register. However, when the deadline arrived on April 7, only 652 had turned up.

Halls of Montezuma

AMERICAN marine guards, not in uniform, are being assigned to the American Embassy compound in Manila. A formal request to this effect by the Embassy some time ago was reported to have been politely turned down by the Philippine government.

An Embassy spokesman pointed out that the marines' assignment to Manila was strictly routine, declaring that there are marines guarding US Embassies and Legations in many parts of the world.

KOREA

Acheson Warning

SOUTH Korea was warned that it might lose American military and economic aid unless she stabilized her "inflationary economy" and held national elections in May. This was contained in a note handed to the South Korean Ambassador in Washington by Dean Acheson.

The Koreans were charged with failure to understand the seriousness of their financial problem and "an unwillingness to take the drastic measures required to curb the growing inflation." According to the American view, South Korean's finances have reached a crisis, and unless this is curbed very soon it would seriously impair the country's ability to make effective use of American aid. Acheson also stated that the holding of elections next month was just as urgent a step as anti-inflation measures.

In Deference to US

ELECTIONS will be held on May 25 instead of November as he had intended—in deference to America's request—President Syngman Rhee told the South Korean National Assembly.

Angry shouts from the assembly greeted Rhee's announcement of the critical US note. Rhee told the gathering the note had arrived in a letter from Marshall Aid Administrator Paul G. Hoffman on April 5.

MALAYA

Hot and Grim

THE cold war in Malaya is waxing hot and, according to one recent British House of Lords returnee from a bird's eye view of the scene, has turned "extremely grim."

Despite a Kuala Lumpur announcement that nearly 500,000 civilians assisted the authorities during March in battling the insurgents the British position in Malaya was becoming more shaky. According to the British, a fantastic situation existed whereby 4,000 ill-armed men were able to challenge without impunity a division of British troops and 40,000 to 50,000 police. The intelligence of the insurgents in Malaya has been described as being better than the British.

Jungle Dollars

AS THE tide against the British continued to turn, efforts were being made to put down the insurgents with more armed force. A supreme commander to take complete control of campaign Malaya has been urged. The British apparently felt that there were too many cooks. There was a plethora of authorities in Malaya, according to the former British Special Commissioner in SE Asia. He claims the fault does not lie with the troops or with the loyal members of the community and "certainly not with the planters and their wives who were risking their lives deep in the heart of the jungle to help bridge the dollar gap."

The cry for a strong man in Malaya has been answered with the appointment of Sir Harold Briggs. Briggs will be the new director of operations and will be responsible for offensive action and allocating tasks to security forces. In connection with the heads of the police and fighting services he will decide priorities between these tasks and the general timing and sequence of their execution.

Police All Over

THE Malayan Federal government has announced plans to set up a uniformed auxiliary police force in the main towns. The new force will enable volunteers in the anti-insurgent campaign to continue service.

Among the other measures announced was the extension of the system of village guards and coastal watchers on a permanent basis in rural areas, the expansion of "re-settlement teams" and the launching of a propaganda campaign. The "re-settlement teams" will be increased in number.

War for Profits

WHILE Commons discussed the growing tenseness in Malaya, London police removed a man who had been distributing "Stop the Malaya War" leaflets to people waiting to go into the public galleries.

The typed leaflet said: "We are ex-servicemen who have served in Malaya. Some of us willingly fought against the Japanese in the war for freedom, some of us unwillingly against our former allies, the Malayan People's Army, in a war for tin and rubber profits. All of us know the

people and the conditions in Malaya and we say this is a war of aggression. Not a drop of British blood should be shed to defend the dividends of city magnates. Bring the boys home. Stop the war in Malaya!"

INDIA

India, Pakistan Agree

JOINT talks between Indian Prime Minister and Pakistan Prime Minister Liaquat Ali Khan were concluded after six days with the signing of an agreement for a settlement of the minorities problem in East and West Bengal. The areas under discussion have been the scene of frequent and large scale communal rioting. Under the agreement the two prime ministers are expected to meet from time to time to insure satisfactory implementation of its terms.

"Roving" Not Allowed

WHILE the two men were ironing out the problems of Hindu and Moslem conflict in India, Dr. N. B. Khare, President of the All-India Hindu Mahasabha was prohibited by the Central Provinces government from "roving outside his home town" of Nagpur. He also was forbidden to make speeches or issue statements regarding refugees from East Pakistan or Pakistan-India relations.

In Poona, police arrested five Hindu Mahasabha leaders including two newspaper editors under the "Public Security Measures Act." This was the third official action against the Hindu Mahasabha in less than a week and presumably was made to prevent any inflammatory action on the occasion of the Indo-Pakistan New Delhi talks. At the same time, Bombay police arrested six people on charges of collecting arms to commit what the police described as "political crimes in the city."

INDO-CHINA

French SOS

THE French General Staff in Saigon has sent an urgent appeal to Britain and the US asking for military equipment, according to Saigon reports. With the forces of Ho Chi Minh making constant advances, the General Staff has indicated that unless aid arrived quickly France would be forced to revise her military dispositions in Indo-China.

The same reports stated that the French had asked for material to be sent direct to the ports of Saigon, in the south, and to Haiphong, at the mouth of the Red River in the north, by the end of June. Among the demands on Washington made by the French were 400 light trucks, 200 heavy lorries, 250 jeeps, 150 armored cars and a large number of heavy mortars. The British were requested to turn over 500 new Bren guns and a quantity of Sten and Australian Owen pattern automatic weapons.

BOOKS OF INTEREST

THE GREAT CONSPIRACY AGAINST RUSSIA by Michael Sayers and Albert E. Kahn, New York City, Boni & Gaer, Inc., 1946, 139 pages, US $ 1.00. Reviewed by A.T.C.

IT was just four years ago that "The Great Conspiracy Against Russia" was hailed by leading newspapers and magazines in America as a "thoroughly documented" story, "a strange and frightening story, backed up with a vast array of documented evidence, of intrigue, sabotage and terror."

It would be interesting to know what such magazines as *Newsweek* and newspapers like the *New York Herald Tribune*, which praised this book so highly in 1946 would say today, for the facts which are given in this amazing book have not changed. The *Herald Tribune* at that time said: "The excitement of this narrative should not overshadow its serious contribution to a better understanding of the obstacles that still stand in the way of full confidence between Russia and the United States."

With the cold war now in its third year and the new age of atomic and super-atomic bombs going into full swing, it seems more than pertinent to review again some of the "obstacles" which are standing in the way of Russian—American relations. Some interesting parallels can also be drawn with Sino-American relations at the present time.

* * *

THE authors begin with a fascinating narrative of the reactions of the western powers and their representatives in Czarist Russia to the October Revolution. Although the United States was still at war with Germany and not with Russia, the *New York Times* in 1918 was already describing the Bolsheviks as "our most malignant enemies," and as "ravening beasts of prey." David Francis, the American Ambassador in Russia that year was periodically issuing proclamations and statements calling upon the Russian people to overthrow the Soviet government.

By the summer of 1919, without declaration of war, the armed forces of 14 states had invaded the territory of Soviet Russia. The countries involved were: Great Britain, France, Japan, Germany, Italy, the United States, Czechoslovakia, Serbia, China, Finland, Greece, Poland, Rumania and Turkey. Fighting side by side with the anti-Soviet invaders were the counter-revolutionary White armies led by former Czarist generals striving to restore the feudal aristocracy which the Russian people had overthrown. There were all sorts of reasons that the Allies gave for the presence of their troops in Russia, such as helping to "restore order" or to prevent supplies from falling into the hands of the Germans. The Allied statesmen at that time denied any intention of armed intervention against the Soviets or of interfering with Russia's internal affairs, just as American spokesmen are saying about China today.

According to the authors, "The Anglo-French and Japanese invaders were attracted by the rich prizes that awaited the conqueror of Russia. American motives, however, were mixed. Traditional American foreign policy, as expressed by Woodrow Wilson and by the War Department, demanded friendship with Russia as a potential ally and counterbalance to German and Japanese Imperialism. American investments in Czarism had been small; but, on the advice of the State Department, several hundreds of millions of American dollars had been subsequently poured into Russia to prop up the shaky Kerensky regime. The State Department continued to support Kerensky, and even to subsidize his 'Russian Embassy' in Washington for several years after the Bolshevik Revolution. Certain officials in the State Department cooperated with the White generals and the Anglo-French and Japanese interventionists.

"The most notable American to identify himself with the anti-Soviet war was Herbert Hoover, future President of the United States, who at that time was the American Food Administrator."

The facts which the authors present show that Mr. Hoover had an interest in no less than 11 Russian oil companies and that he was associated with the Russo-Asiatic Corporation whose total property values were estimated at US$1,000,000,000. By 1917 he had sold all of his Russian holdings and after the Bolshevik Revolution all the concessions with which Hoover had formerly been associated were abrogated and the mines confiscated by the Soviet government.

"Bolshevism," said Herbert Hoover at the Paris Peace Conference, "is worse than war!"

The money and foodstuffs donated by the American people for European relief were used by Mr. Hoover to support intervention against the Soviets.

Herbert Hoover was not alone in his bitterness and hatred of a socialist regime. His fellow countryman and noted anti-Semite, Henry Ford, had identified himself with anti-Bolshevism and was giving huge sums of money to support fascism and aid such well-known agents as the famous Sidney Reilly. Mr. Reilly's connections listed many of the leading statesmen and businessmen of Western Europe including Winston Churchill and Sir Henri Wilhelm August Deterding, head of the great British international oil trust, Royal Dutch Shell.

Reilly and his backers tried one plot after another of supporting and supplying arms to White Guard gen-

erals whom they thought could overthrow the Bolshevik regime. He and other agents, including the Vickers "engineers," worked through the Industrial Party, Menshevik and White Guard movements in Russia. The trial of these agents who were plotting anti-Soviet intrigues brought forth waves of anti-Soviet propaganda in the British and American press. It was said that "Tibetan drugs" were being used against the British agents to make them confess, that they were suffering horribly in Russian prisons. Their subsequent light sentences and deportation to England didn't stop the continuous anti-Soviet defamations printed by the western newspapers.

* * *

ONE fascinating section is devoted to the intrigues of Trotsky. As the *Newsweek* reviewer said, it "reads like an E. Phillips Oppenheim thriller, peopled with international spies and secret-service operatives." Trotsky was the leader of a great web of treason which included Soviet ambassadors and consular officials, technicians and doctors, and even members of NKVD, the Soviet secret police. His funds and support came from the German and Japanese governments. Trotsky was used by the Germans to organize the Fifth Column in the Soviet Union. His mad hunger for power led him to instigate and support acts of terror and sabotage, the murder of the great Soviet writer, Gorky, and other leaders of the Soviet government. The Japanese and German agents, followers of Trotsky, were eventually rounded up and the western countries were to hear of the great "purges" going on in the Soviet Union. Excerpts from the trials given by the authors will sound very familiar to anyone who has followed the latest "purges" in Hungary and Bulgaria.

The final section of this book is entitled "From Munich to San Francisco" and lays bare the great hope of the reactionary politicians of England and France that Germany would turn East in its expansionist program and wipe out once and for all the Soviet Union. For the Munich Pact was just that—a Holy Alliance against Russia.

The authors quote American Ambassador to the Soviet Union, Joseph E. Davies, as writing on July 18, 1941:

"From my observations and contacts, since 1936, I believe that outside of the President of the United States alone no government in the world saw more clearly the menace of Hitler to peace and the necessity for collective security and alliances among non-aggressive nations than did the Soviet government. They were ready to fight for Czechoslovakia. They cancelled their non-aggressive pact with Poland *in advance of Munich* because they wished to clear the road for the passage of their troops through Poland to go to the aid of Czechoslovakia if necessary to fulfill their treaty obligations. . . .

"During all the spring of 1939 the Soviets tried to bring about a definite agreement that would assume unity of action and coordination of military plans to stop Hitler.

"Britain . . . refused to give the same guarantees of protection to Russia with reference to the Baltic states which Russia was giving to France and Britain in the event of aggression against Belgium or Holland. The Soviets became convinced, and with considerable reason, that no effective, direct and practical, general arrangement could be made with France and Britain. They were driven to a pact of nonaggression with Hitler."

The plot of the western powers against the Soviet people had backfired and World War II embroiled England, France and all of Europe.

* * *

THE authors end with a note of hope about the future alliance of the western powers with the Soviet Union in a strong United Nations that will safeguard the world against recurrent fascism. But as the book was going to press, Winston Churchill had made his famous speech at Fulton, Missouri about "the growing challenge and peril to Christian civilization" of Russian communism. People all over the world and especially in America were stunned and shocked by this blast against their great ally. Four years later, with the continuous propaganda and vehement out-pourings of western statesmen and press, that have blunted many Americans into accepting the "cold war" as inevitable, it would be more than timely for the authors of this book to add a new section to "The Great Conspiracy Against Russia."

LETTERS

(Continued from Page 105)

taxation system has been instituted in China. Formerly those who were required to pay taxes could bribe tax officers and thereby avoid paying taxes. Also it was customary to defer tax payments and, with the rapid inflation of those days, this meant a great loss of government revenue.

Now taxes are calculated in kind and there is little to gain by putting off payment. The chances for approaching tax collectors for illegal negotiations are very slim indeed. Viewed in this light, taxes look much heavier now than before.

Collecting commercial and industrial taxes in China is an extremely difficult job. Very few account books kept by companies or shops can be used as an accurate basis for collecting taxes. Many of these concerns keep two sets of account books: one for their own use and one to be inspected by the tax collectors. An investigation of 219 shops in Wuhan showed that only seven of them had honest accounts; 104 had two sets of account books and 108 were considered suspicious. Another investigation conducted in Shanghai revealed that some 80 percent of account books kept by the firms investigated were unreliable.

In the face of these circumstances, the government has adopted a system whereby assessments fixed for various cities are distributed in the following manner: discussions on amount of taxes to be assessed are held among the taxpayers themselves; allotments to individual payers are made after "democratic deliberation."

This method of assessing, though not entirely satisfactory, is the only expedient one under present conditions. Workers sent by tax authorities to assist trade guilds in fixing allotments among their members must be well informed of business conditions and taxpayers' capacity so that assessments will not be arbitrary.

Many taxpayers are feeling the effect of poor business conditions at present due to the coastal blockade by the KMT, the air raids and the drawn out civil war. To ensure a sound economy, taxes should be commensurate with ability to pay. The government seems to be cognizant of this.

During the period of transition from the old economic order to the new one, hardships and privations to some individuals are inevitable. However, once the industrial reconstruction program is completed, there will be general economic prosperity.

CHEN FU-SHENG

Foochow, Fukien
April 1, 1950

PAPER TIGERS

To the Editor:

I read with interest your editorial "Peaceful Competition" in the March 18 issue and wish to discuss a few points in it.

You said that "it is inconceivable that the United States could overthrow socialism in Russia or that the Soviet Union could turn America into a socialist nation." The point at issue does not lie so much in whether or not one nation can change another nation's economic system, but in the question of which of the two systems is more progressive: capitalism or socialism.

I stress progressive because the history of mankind clearly shows that any reactionary force which attempts to obstruct its course in the past has always ended in disastrous failure. Yes, we ought to "allow history to decide which is the more productive and sensible." As you suggest, "There are even those who wish to turn us back, to make of their madness a new law and of their dollars a new destiny." These people you mention are no other than the bloodthirsty warmongers and their lackeys.

The recent development of the world situation has clearly explained the fact that it is not the Soviet Union that does not want to cooperate with the United States and Britain, but rather the United States and Britain who refuse to cooperate with the Soviet Union. Why? Because it is as clear as daylight that "peaceful competition" will eventually show the inherent superiority of socialism over capitalism. The imperialists, of course, fear this competition and they hope to resort to war to "turn back" the course of history.

How about the Soviet Union? On May 17, 1948, in his open reply to Wallace's letter, Stalin said that the Soviet government considered it not only possible but absolutely necessary that the two systems continue to exist together side by side and that the differences be settled by peaceful means.

We in the progressive camp do not want war nor do we fear it, but whenever the warmongers try to start a war we will certainly be fully prepared for it. The refusal of "peaceful competition" means the obliteration of the imperialist aggressors from the face of the earth.

If "peaceful competition" can be "accepted" by American and British nations, then you are right in saying that "it would seem that there is no present conflict that cannot be solved." This is what we eagerly wish them to do. Who can make them "accept" the principle of "peaceful competition?" I should say, the strength of peace. I feel that the forces for peace have grown much stronger since the People's China appeared on the horizon of the world. The warmongers are essentially paper tigers in the face of the people's forces, and would quickly throw in the sponge when all the peace-loving people together straighten up and assume a boxing attitude.

P. Y. WANG

Peking
April 5, 1950

The Review's English Lesson CXXVI

The FBI and its G-men

This week's text is part of an article on the Federal Bureau of Investigation:

> J. Edgar Hoover has been director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation for a quarter of a century. He is the factual head of the entire police espionage system of the United States, and is perhaps the only important American Government official who has remained uninterruptedly in one post for so long, and in such a ticklish post at that. . . From 1917 to 1919, Hoover was a special agent in the Department of Justice Bureau of Investigation, which specialized in combating progressive trends. When, in 1918, the Bureau was instructed to take measures against the "marked spread of radicalism," Hoover's activities attracted the attention of his superiors. He personally directed the raids on the homes and premises of individuals and organizations suspected of "radical views". . . . The number of special agents on the staff of the FBI and its local branches increased from 851 in 1939 to 4,600 in 1943, and in 1946 the FBI had 14,300 special agents. But in addition to the special agents on its staff, the FBI has a number of special agents who do not figure on its rolls. They are known as "friends of the FBI," and their recruitment is organized on a wide scale throughout the country. . . In 1919 and 1920, Hoover card-indexed 500,000 Americans suspected of "radicalism" and "dangerous thoughts." Much later the *New Republic* wrote in this connection: "In that dark period Hoover compiled a list of half a million persons suspected as dangerous because of the 'ultra-radicalism' of their economic or political beliefs or activities. The equivalent of one person out of every 60 families in the United States was on the list. . . Hoover beat Heinrich Himmler by fourteen years . . . . ." On December 1, 1949, Hoover's files contained approximately 113,000,000 fingerprints. The FBI has a register of practically every adult inhabitant of the United States and is drawing up detailed individual records. . .

Federal: of, or in, the federal government of the United States. Any bureau in the federal government has power to act throughout the whole country. Thus, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, or FBI, has countrywide police and investigatory power, unlike state or city police, whose authority does not extend beyond state or city limits.

Factual head: the actual, real head; the person having executive authority.

Espionage: the practice of spying upon others, or the employment of spies.

Such a ticklish post: here, "ticklish" means requiring careful handling; delicate, critical.

Special agent: "special" here has the meaning of confined to a certain field of action. In its commonly accepted sense, the phrase means "spy," or "policeman," or a combination of the two.

Take measures against: here, "measure" means a step in a definite course or policy. The phrase means to act against, to combat.

Marked spread: significant or noticeable increase.

Radicalism: the body of principles or doctrines of those who advocate fundamental and sweeping changes in government organization and methods with the least delay; revolutionary thought.

Premises: the word comes from legal usage, meaning a piece of land or real estate; it has come to mean also any building, or land and buildings together.

Staff: the staff of any organization is the group of assistants or workmen under the authority of a superintendent or general manager; all those who are connected with an enterprise who do not participate in management. It is one of a class of nouns in English called "collective nouns," which are in the singular number, but whose meaning is plural. For this reason, when speaking of the members of an organization as a group, the singular form should always be used, as, "The staff met with the management to discuss the wage question." It is not correct to say, "The staffs were paid on Saturday," when individuals are meant. Here one can say, "The staff members were paid on Saturday." Of course, if the members of various different organizations is meant, then the plural is correct, as "The staffs of most of the city offices participated in the parade." But it seems more convenient to put it in another way, as "All the staff members of most of the city offices. . ."

Figure on its rolls: here, "figure" means to appear, to be included. "Rolls" is a register, or various registers, of names, as in a school, business, or other organization. The whole phrase means "officially appear as members or employees."

Recruitment: the gathering in, or gaining, of new supplies of men for service, especially in a military organization.

Card-indexed: a verb formed from the noun "card index," a system of filing information on small cards, in an orderly and regular manner, which permits the desired card to be rapidly found when needed. Thus, to "card index" individuals is to file information about them in the above way.

In this connection: concerning this matter, having to do with this question.

Dark period: gloomy, sad or dangerous time.

Compiled: to compile is to collect (literary) materials into a volume, or to compose, as a list, out of materials from other sources.

Hoover beat Heinrich Himmler: to beat is to outdistance, as in a race, or to triumph over someone else generally. Here, the meaning is that Hoover, with his G-men, constituted a Gestapo-like force of special police 14 years before the Nazi Gestapo chief organized his.

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